

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating fluid spills on roadways comprising:

placing a biodegradable absorbent material selected from a group consisting of peat moss and coconut coir onto a roadway where there has been a fluid spill, said material being pellets having an average diameter of 3/16 of an inch or smaller; and

removing the absorbent from the roadway.

2. The method for treating fluid spills of claim 1, wherein the absorbent is coconut coir dust.

3. The method for treating fluid spills according to claim 2 wherein the method further comprises disposing of the absorbent by sweeping it off the road.

4. The method for treating fluid spills according to claim 1, wherein the method further comprises disposing of the absorbent in a landfill.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the pellets comprise a fire retardant.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the pellets comprise at least 50% coconut coir.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the pellets comprise a material for enhancing the biodegradation of the fluid.

8. A method for containing fluid spilled on a surface comprising:

identifying fluid spilled on a surface; and
covering the fluid spill with coconut coir pellets having an average diameter of 3/16 of an inch or less.

9. The method of claim 8 further comprising removing the coconut coir.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein the coconut coir comprises pellets.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the pellet size is roughly between 0.06 and 0.12 inches in diameter.

12. The method of claim 10 wherein the coconut coir pellets comprise a fire retardant.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein the coconut coir pellets comprise material for enhancing biodegradation of the fluid.

14. The method according to claim 8 wherein the method comprises leaving the coir on the surface.

15. A method for transporting coconut coir, the method comprising:

selecting pellets formed from at least 50% coconut coir by weight, said pellets having an average diameter of 3/16 inch or less;

placing the pellets in a recloseable container; and transporting the recloseable container to a location having a fluid spill.

16. The method of claim 15 further comprising spreading the pellets on a fluid spill.

17. The method of claim 16 further comprising leaving the pellets on the fluid spill.

18. The method of claim 16 further comprising disposing of the pellets by sweeping them off the surface.

19. The method of claim 15 further comprising disposing of the pellets by disposing of them in a landfill.

20. The method according to claim 16 further comprising leaving the pellets on the surface.

21. The method according to claim 15 wherein the pellets are roughly between 0.06 and 0.12 inches in diameter.

22. A method for manufacturing coconut coir pellets comprising:

mixing the coir with liquid to form a paste;
extruding the paste into cylindrical pellets of approximately 0.19 inches in diameter and between 0.18 and 1.5 inches long;

drying the cylindrical pellets to remove the liquid and
 harden the pellet; and

 breaking the cylindrical pellets into pieces ranging
 from approximately 0.06 to approximately 0.19 inches in
 diameter.

23. A method for cleaning up spilled liquid
comprising:

 covering the liquid with coconut coir pellets having a
 size ranging from approximately 0.06 to approximately 0.19
 inches in diameter.

24. The method according to claim 25 further
comprising disposing of the used coir pellets in a landfill.

25. The method according to claim 25 further
comprising leaving the pellets at the spill location.